

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 SAB-01 IO-14 EB-11 AID-20 DRC-01

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R 200700Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6235

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR: PBOR, AF, PK

SUBJ: AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS: FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON
PASHTUNISTAN

REF: ISLAMABAD 10909 (NOTAL)

1. IN RESPONSE RECENT BHUTTO NEWS CONFERENCE, MFA SPOKESMAN
ISSUED STATEMENT DECEMBER 18 (SEE PARA 2-5 FOR ENGLISH TRANSLATION
WHICH DIRINFO MFA INFORMED US WAS "OFFICIAL TRANSLATION"). ALL
AFGHAN MEDIA GAVE PROMINENT PLAY TO ANNOUNCEMENT, WHICH RESTATES
TRADITIONAL AFGHAN POSITION OF WILLINGNESS TO "NEGOTIATE" RATHER
THEN "DISCUSS" AND CALLS FOR SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PUSHTUN AND
BALUCH PEOPLES. RELATIVELY CALM AND MODERATE TONE OF AFGHAN
ANNOUNCEMENT IS NOTEWORTHY, HOWEVER, AS IT IS FURTHER EVIDENCE
OF DAOUD'S INTENTION AND DESIRE TO REFRAIN FROM FURTHER INFLAMATORY
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ACTS OR STATEMENTS - AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING.

2. BEGIN OFFICIAL TEXT: "ANSWERING A BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY REPORTER'S QUESTION REGARDING REMARKS OF PAKISTANI PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO IN HIS LATEST INTERVIEW THAT HE WISHES TO HOLD TALKS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER OF AFGHANISTAN MOHAMMAD DAOUD ON DIFFERENCES WHICH EXIST BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES A FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT EXCEPT FOR DETERMINING THE FUTURE DESTINY OF THE PASHTUN AND BALUCHI PEOPLE, AFGHANISTAN HAS NO OTHER DIFFERENCE WITH PAKISTAN.

3. AFGHANISTAN HAS ALWAYS TRIED AND WISHED FOR THE SOLUTION OF THIS ONLY POLITICAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES THROUGH TALKS AND FRIENDLY CONTACTS. THE FACT THAT BHUTTO IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION REGARDING PAKISTAN HAS SAID THAT AFGHANISTAN HAS CHOSEN TO REACTIVATE THE ISSUE IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT REGRETABLELY BHUTTO HAS WISHED, WITH THIS KIND OF OUTLOOK, TO CONFUSE THE ISSUE OF PASHTUNISTAN IN A WAY, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND HE EXPLICITLY ADMITS THE EXISTENCE OF THE ISSUE, WHICH SHOWS A CONTRADICTION IN TERMS OF HIS REASONING. (SIC)

4. HENCE, IT SHOULD BE NOTED ONCE AGAIN THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE PASHTUN AND BALUCH PEOPLE, AND THE ISSUE OF PASHTUNISTAN HAS HAD AID CONTINUES TO HAVE A LONG HISTORY BY ITSELF
D EFACTORY BEARS WITNESS TO THIS.

AFGHANISTAN BEFORE THE FORMATION AND CREATION OF PAKISTAN TO THIS DAY HAS ALWAYS DEMANDED THE GRANTING OF THIS RIGHT TO THE PASHTUN AND BALUCH PEOPLE, SO THAT THEY DETERMINE THEIR FUTURE DESTINY THEMSELVES FREELY AND WITHOUT THE INTERFERENCE OF OTHERS.

5. THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER OF AFGHANISTAN IS READY TO NEGOTIATE ON THIS POLITICAL DIFFERENCE WITH PAKISTANI LEADERS ANY TIME OR ANY OCCASION SUITABLE TO BOTH PARTIES." END TEXT.
ELIOT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BALUCHISTAN, PRESS CONFERENCES, SELFDETERMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KABUL08635
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731214/aaaaajsx.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ISLAMABAD 10909 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <02-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS: FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON PASHTUNISTAN
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, AF, PK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005